

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 15-CR-115

NICHOLAS C. HINDMAN, SR.,

Defendant.

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
ON DEFENDANT'S CHANGE OF PLEA**

The United States of America and the defendant, Nicholas C. Hindman, Sr., who was represented by counsel, appeared before me for a change of plea colloquy pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 on December 5, 2016. ECF No. 196. Both parties consented to my conducting the change of plea colloquy. I explained that it would be for the U.S. District Judge alone, not me, to enter the plea and that my role was to conduct the plea colloquy and then to prepare a report and recommendation for ultimate disposition by Judge Stadtmueller.

After Mr. Hindman was placed under oath and advised as to the implications of being untruthful, I questioned him about his competency to go forward with the hearing. I then discussed in detail each of the subjects specified in Rule 11, including the rights he would surrender by entering a plea of guilty, the maximum penalties associated with the charged offense, and the authority of the sentencing judge to disregard any recommendations in the plea agreement and to give Mr. Hindman a

maximum sentence.

At the conclusion of this colloquy, I determined that Mr. Hindman was of above-average intelligence, having graduated from college and earned his CPA certification, and was fully capable of entering an informed, intelligent, and voluntary plea. I further determined that Mr. Hindman's guilty plea was in fact knowing and voluntary and was not induced by threats or by promises not contained in the plea agreement. I found that there was an independent factual basis containing each of the essential elements of the offenses charged. Mr. Hindman advised that he was pleading guilty to the charged offenses because he was, in fact, guilty and that the government could prove beyond a reasonable doubt each and every element of the charged offenses because each and every element was true as to him. Finally, I found that, in responding to my questions, Mr. Hindman was candid, lucid, respectful, and non-evasive, fully accepting responsibility for and acknowledging the unlawfulness of his conduct.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED that defendant Nicholas C. Hindman, Sr.'s plea of guilty to Count 10 and Count 20 be accepted; that a presentence investigation and report be prepared according to the schedule set by the Court; and that Mr. Hindman be adjudicated guilty and have sentence imposed accordingly.

Your attention is directed to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C), Fed. R. Crim. P. 59(b), and E.D. Wis. Gen. L. R. 72(c), whereby written objections to any recommendation herein, or part thereof, may be filed within fourteen days of service

of this Recommendation or prior to the Final Pretrial Conference, whichever is earlier. Objections are to be filed in accordance with the Eastern District of Wisconsin's electronic case filing procedures. Failure to file a timely objection with the district court shall result in a waiver of your right to appeal. If no response or reply will be filed, please notify the Court in writing.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 6th day of December, 2016.

BY THE COURT:

s/ David E. Jones
DAVID E. JONES
United States Magistrate Judge